

Message Text

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44

ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 EA-06 ISO-00 SWF-01 AID-05 CEA-01 CIAE-00

COME-00 EB-04 FRB-01 INR-05 NSAE-00 RSC-01 CIEP-01

SP-02 STR-01 TRSE-00 LAB-01 SIL-01 SAM-01 OMB-01

AEC-05 DODE-00 FEAE-00 FPC-01 H-01 INT-05 L-02 NSC-05

PM-03 OES-02 SS-15 /084 W
----- 024413

R 071718Z NOV 74

FM USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 7746

INFO ALL EC CAPITALS 03

AMEMBASSY OSLO

AMEMBASSY OTTAWA

AMEMBASSY TOKYO

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE EC BRUSSELS 8680

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: EEC, ENRG, US

SUBJECT: EC CONSULTATIONS WITH OIL COMPANIES

REF: EC BRUSSELS 8106

1. EC COMMISSION DIRECTOR FOR HYDROCARBONS BRONDEL BRIEFED US ON THE EC'S CONSULTATIONS WITH THE OIL COMPANIES (THE TALKS WITH EXXON, THE LAST ON THE LIST, TAKE PLACE TODAY, NOVEMBER 7). BRONDEL SAID THE TALKS WERE HIGHLY SUCCESSFUL. ALL COMPANIES BUT ONE (UNNAMED) WERE FRANK AND OPEN, AND ALL (INCLUDING THE RELUCTANT COMPANY) HAVE PROVIDED THE INFORMATION SOUGHT BY THE COMMISSION ON COSTS AND TRANSFER PRICES.

2. BRONDEL SAID THE PRICE INFORMATION PROVIDED BY THE COMPANIES PROVED WHAT HE HAD EXPECTED: THAT THE PRICES THE COMPANIES WERE CHARGING IN EUROPE DID NOT EVEN PERMIT THEM TO RECOVER COSTS.

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THUS, HE ASSERTED, OPEC IS ABSOLUTELY WRONG IN CHARGING THAT

THE COMPANIES ARE MAKING EXORBITANT PROFITS.

3. IN RESPONSE TO A QUESTION, BRONDEL SAID HE ANTICIPATED NO FOLLOW-UP WITH THE COMPANIES WHATSOEVER. THIS WAS A ONE-SHOT DEAL, AND THE EC NOW HAS THE INFORMATION IT NEEDS. FUTURE INFORMATION ON MATTERS SUCH AS PRICE WILL BE SUPPLIED BY THE OIL COMPANIES TO THE IEA WITH WHICH THE EC HAS NO INTENTION OF COMPETING. HE SAID THIS WAS CLEARLY UNDERSTOOD BY THE COMPANIES. (HE HEDGED JUST A BIT SAYING THAT HE DID NOT INTEND TO RULE OUT THE EC EVER CONSULTING THE COMPANIES AGAIN ON ANYTHING, BUT HE SAID THERE WAS NOTHING ON THE HORIZON).
GREENWALD

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Message Attributes

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Disposition Reason:
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